The Lumenis Pulse 100 H, the next generation of the VersaPulse® Power-Suite™ 100 Watt system, is a versatile and enhanced laser solution for the treatment of a wide array of clinical urologic indications including benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), stones, tumors or strictures, along with a range of other specialties such as general surgery, ENT, gynecology and pulmonary surgery. As a greatly effective laser system for stones and BPH, the Pulse 100H enables users to perform holmium laser enucleation of the prostate (HoLEP), the gold standard treatment for BPH, and stone dusting™. The new system features an improved design to enhance patient safety and overall user experience. It offers a robust combination of laser parameters addressing more than 70 types of procedures, an innovative pulse reshape function for improved safety, dual pedals for improved ease of use, a hands-free ready and standby mode for minimizing cost per procedure, and a high energy per pulse of up to 3.5 J with a high repetition rate of up to 50 Hz. In addition to the Pulse 100 H, Lumenis will also be unveiling another key addition to the Lumenis Pulse laser family, the Pulse 50 H laser system. Designed to efficiently address any type or size of stone in lithotripsy, the Pulse 50 H system is a superior comprehensive solution that provides 0.2 J of energy per pulse to minimize migration of even the smallest stone. Furthermore, the Pulse 50 H can be later upgraded to the new Pulse 100 H, allowing physicians to further leverage their investment as they grow their practice.

“The new Pulse 50 H system provides all features to perform modern intra corporeal Holmium laser lithotripsy including a wide range of energy levels and frequencies,” said Professor Rassweiler, MD, PhD, Klinikum SLK, Heilbronn, Germany.
In order to gain insights into women’s dental visiting patterns and knowledge about the impact of oral health on their own and their babies’ well-being, Cigna Corp., a global health service company, conducted an online survey in August among 801 pregnant women and new mothers aged 21–45. Only 55 per cent of the survey participants rated their oral health as very good or excellent, and 76 per cent reported oral health problems during pregnancy, including bleeding gingivae, increased tooth sensitivity and tooth pain. However, only 43 per cent of pregnant women stated that they had gone for dental check-ups during pregnancy, and 36 per cent said that they had not seen a dentist for more than a year. Overall, 33 per cent of women surveyed said that they had skipped dental checkups during pregnancy because they were concerned it would be too expensive.

In addition, the survey indicated that targeted interventions by medical professionals could significantly improve the oral health habits of pregnant women and new mothers. With regard to the daily oral hygiene habits of new mothers, the investigators found that 36 per cent have brushed and flossed less frequently since delivery, 67 per cent of whom stated that they do not have time to keep up on their hygiene. The full report can be accessed and downloaded at www.cigna.com.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2.3 million Americans smoke tobacco from pipes, many of whom smoke water pipes, believing it is less harmful than cigarettes. A recent study, however, has shown that water pipe smoking is also associated with various head and neck conditions, including periodontal disease and oral cancer.

Researchers at University Medical Center (UMC) Utrecht have identified a gene that may cause oligodontia, the agenesis of six or more teeth. The discovery of the so-called LPR6 gene makes it possible to diagnose patients more effectively, provide them with better information and develop customized treatment. The results were published today in The American Journal of Human Genetics. Oligodontia greatly impacts quality of life and may lead to eating and speaking problems, among other things. Dr Marijn Créton, dentist and maxillofacial prosthodontist at the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Special Dental Care at UMC Utrecht, ensures—in consultation with patients—that ultimately they have a good set of teeth both at a young and adult age. This requires a treatment of many years, during which patients are treated by a dentist, oral surgeon and orthodontist. “Moreover, adolescents with oligodontia often have psychosocial issues,” says Créton. “Missing many teeth is conspicuous. Children, teenagers and young adults are sometimes bullied and regularly experience feelings of low self-esteem and shame.”